



State of Utah
Department of
Natural Resources

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

Division of
Oil, Gas & Mining

JOHN R. BAZA
Division Director

JON M. HUNTSMAN, JR.
Governor

GARY R. HERBERT
Lieutenant Governor

June 13, 2005

Dan Andrus and Jackie Wilde
Orr's Ranch, Skull Valley Utah
P.O. Box 75
Dugway, Utah 84022

Subject: Approval of Large Mine Plan, Holcim's, Skull Valley Diatomaceous Earth Quarry, M/045/060, Tooele County, Utah

Dear Mr. Andrus & Ms. Wilde:

The Division appreciates your taking the time to comment on the Skull Valley Diatomaceous Earth Mine. We spoke with Shirley Andrus on Friday, June 03, 2005. After our discussions with her, it appeared that she felt the company had done everything it could to resolve the protest issues. The Division also believes that Holcim is sincere in resolving these issues and, therefore, will move forward with approving the Large Mine Operation.

If you have further concerns, now or during the mining operations, please contact Tom Munson at 801-538-5321.

Sincerely,

Susan M. White
Mining Program Coordinator
Minerals Regulatory Program

SMW:tm:jb

cc: Larry Garahana, BLM SLC

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Dan Andrus and Jackie Wilde
Orr's Ranch, Skull Valley Utah
P.O. Box 75
Dugway Utah 84022

April 23, 2005

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^{Mr}
DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING

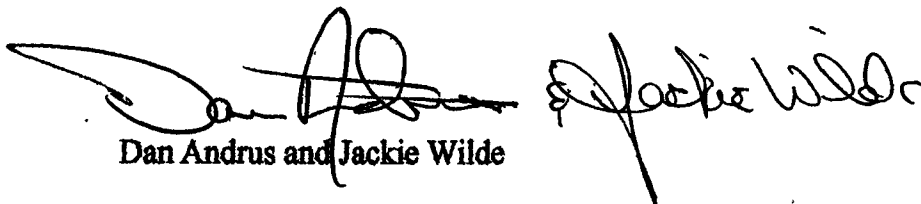
Subject: Written protest to Mine Plan Permit Revision, Holcim (US) Incorporated's,
Skull Valley Diamaceous Earth Quarry, M/045/060, Tooele County, Utah

Dear Mr. Mark Mesch,

I am writing in protest to the recent decision to approve Holcim (US) Inc. permit of expanding an existing small mining operation located in Skull Valley, Tooele County, Utah. Having seen and watched Holcims' current operation, I feel that expanding their current operation would only worsen an already bad situation. At the pit site, overburden and the pit itself is a horrible dust problem. In a valley where the wind blows all the time, dust from the operation is terrible. No dust control measures are taken to lessen the situation. Reject material and waste rock are found throughout the project. Roads to the pit area are open to common traffic and are not marked as to the hazard ahead, which includes dropoffs into the pit which are NOT bermed or fenced off. (During operation and non operation) Truck traffic due to the existing pit has already taken its toll on the Old Lincoln Highway. We are fortunate that it was paved due to the County school bus travel. The asphalt was placed over the existing gravel road with trucks and road grader. We are grateful for this, but it was NOT engineered for the heavy trucks and trailers that are currently hauling the material. Furthermore, those trucks travel past homes located on the Lincoln Highway, some of which have young children in which the trucks size and speed creates quite a hazard.

I have no reason to believe that by approving the operation to go large scale, that Holcim will improve upon their current operations and respectfully protest the tentative decision to grant approval of the Large Mining Operations Notice of Intention for Holcim's Skull Valley Diatomaceous Earth's Mine.

Sincerely,


Dan Andrus and Jackie Wilde